



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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For Immediate Release

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NEWS RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA - United States Attorney Pat Meehan, today, announced the filing of an indictment¹ charging Robert Souvannavong with conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of cocaine base ("crack"), distribution of cocaine base ("crack"), possession with intent to distribute cocaine base ("crack") and employment of persons under the age of eighteen in drug operations. The indictment alleges that from February 2007 through February 5, 2008, Robert Souvannavong conspired with other persons to distribute and sell packets of cocaine base ("crack") in the vicinity of 3850 Woodhaven Road in Philadelphia and to use his residence, an apartment in that area, as a base of operations for his "crack" distribution enterprise. It is further charged that during the conspiracy Souvannavong possessed loaded firearms inside his residence to facilitate the distribution of "crack," to protect himself as well as the drugs and drug proceeds he stored in the residence. The indictment charges that Souvannavong used cellular telephones to communicate with and to conduct and arrange transactions for "crack" with prospective purchasers. It is further charged that Souvannavong employed, used and hired juveniles under the age of eighteen to carry out the distribution and sale of "crack" in the vicinity of 3850 Woodhaven Road in Philadelphia.

The indictment further alleges that on four separate occasions from November 26, 2007 through February 4, 2008, Souvannavong employed a juvenile to distribute "crack" cocaine to a cooperating witness and an undercover police officer. It is further charged that on February 5, 2008, Souvannavong possessed with intent to distribute approximately 120 grams of cocaine base ("crack") and two loaded firearms inside his apartment in Philadelphia. The indictment also seeks criminal forfeiture of drug proceeds and facilitating property, including \$8,915 in cash seized on February 5, 2008.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANT

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
Robert Souvannavong	Philadelphia, PA	27

¹ An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

If convicted of the offenses charged, the defendant face the following maximum penalties: life imprisonment, an effective mandatory minimum term of 25 years imprisonment, lifetime supervised release, at least 10 years supervised release, a fine of \$24,500,000 and a special assessment of \$800.

The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Joseph T. Labrum, III.

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